

WAUKESHA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

September 8, 2010

In Attendance:

Sergeant Nate Clarke; Wisconsin State Patrol
Ms. Mitzi Dobersek; Wisconsin DOT Highway Engineering Representative
Michael Grulke; Highway Commissioner Representative
Lieutenant Larry LaFavor; Chairman, Traffic Safety Coordinator
Ms. Andrea Loeffelholz; DOT Bureau of Transportation Safety
Sergeant Kenneth Pileggi; Village of Mukwonago Police Department Representative
Sergeant Mark Tushaus; City of Brookfield Police Department

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Traffic Safety Commission Chairman Lieutenant Larry LaFavor at 2:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Sergeant Nate Clarke, of the Wisconsin State Patrol, made a motion to approve the minutes; and Lieutenant Larry LaFavor, Chairman of the Traffic Safety Commission, seconded the motion. The minutes were then approved.

TRAFFIC SAFETY LEGISLATION REPORT

Ms. Andrea Loeffelholz stated that 2010 had more miles driven than 2009 or 2008, therefore, there were more fatalities. There were also more motorcycle fatalities than last year.

Weekly Fatality Report – Sunday, September 5, 2010

There were 354 accidents reported year-to-date and 382 fatalities. The five-year average for accidents was 410 with fatalities being 456.

Wisconsin Department Of Transportation - Drivers and Vehicles

This included statistics of fatalities by county as of September 5, 2010. Waukesha County reported 12 in year-to-date statistics.

2009 – 2010 Traffic Law Changes in Wisconsin

As of 06-01-10 Act 28 prohibits operation of a motor vehicle unless the owner or operator has liability insurance in effect on the vehicle.

As of 07-01-10 Act 100 Impaired Driving Law changes 1st offense OWI is now criminal if a minor 16 years-of-age or younger is in the vehicle. Also Ignition Interlock Device is mandatory court order on every Class D vehicle owned by the offender for 1st offense OWI with alcohol content of 0.15 or higher, or 2nd or subsequent OWI, or chemical test refusal.

TRAFFIC SAFETY LEGISLATION REPORT CONTINUED

Summer is here and the deer are playing!!!

June was the second highest month for deer crashes. Five of the six human fatalities in deer hits in 2009 were motorcyclists.

Despite Risks, Internet Creeps Onto Car Dashboards

Automakers and high-tech companies are now installing 10-inch screens above the gearshift showing high-definition videos, 3-D maps, and Web pages. The longer a motorist looks away from the road the risk of crashes go up. Motorists face a much greater crash risk when looking at a screen, even if it is just a simple GPS map. The overall danger for drivers will rise as screens deliver additional streams of data.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

❖ Village of Mukwonago Police Department

Sergeant Kenneth Pileggi, of the Village of Mukwonago Police Department, stated seat belt compliance is up by five percent.

Highway 83 in Mukwonago was recently resurfaced, and he stated it is a nice job.

During a discussion on Electronic Ignition Devices, if you do not blow into the device every 15 or 30 minutes, lights will go on and eventually a siren.

Sergeant K. Pileggi also turned in a letter to Waukesha County for them to look into the situation of traffic traveling east on CTH NN just past the high school, and turning left into St. John's Lutheran Church/School. There are yellow lines preventing a legal turn into the center lane.

❖ City of Brookfield Police Department

Sergeant Mark Tushaus, from the City of Brookfield Police Department, stated the round-about at Barker Road and North Avenue is completed and well done.

HIGH CRASH LOCATIONS / FATALS

➡ Chairman Larry LaFavor reported that the Waukesha Sheriff's Department had seven fatalities, as follows:

● Date of Accident: 05-14-10

Location: S/B Redford Blvd at Lindsay Road

A 1998 Ford Windstar van was attempting to cross Redford Blvd. to continue westbound on Lindsay Road. It failed to yield the right-of-way to a 2006 Isuzu going southbound on Redford Blvd. The Isuzu struck the Ford Windstar which forced both vehicles into an eastbound 2006 Honda stopped at the stop sign on Lindsay Road. A 79-year-old female passenger in the Ford Windstar was pronounced deceased on the scene. There were three other injured parties. The primary cause of the accident was human error related to failing to yield the right-of-way.

HIGH CRASH LOCATIONS / FATALS CONTINUED

- Date of Accident: 05-15-10
Location: S/B I-43, 1.3 miles north of Highway 83
A deputy from the Waukesha Sheriff's Department was in pursuit of a 1998 Honda traveling northbound on I-43. The Honda drove onto the median shoulder, then crossed both traffic lanes and struck an unoccupied tow truck in service head-on on the opposite shoulder of I-43. The 19-year-old male driver was ejected from the vehicle and later found lying in Lane #1 of southbound traffic.
- Date of Accident: 05-15-10
Location: STH 83, 10 feet south of Old Village Road
A 2007 Harley Davidson motorcycle went off the road, into the ditch, and struck the culvert. The motorcycle flipped in a circle and driver flew through the air. The driver's head struck a 4 x 4 traffic post/speed limit sign, and she ended up laying underneath the motorcycle. The driver had severe head trauma and was dead on the scene. The 32-year-old female driver was not wearing a helmet at the time of the accident.
- Date of Accident: 06-19-10
Location: CTH E, .15 mile south of Woodland Drive
A 2003 Chevrolet Suburban was traveling north on CTH E, approaching a curve. A 2008 Suzuki motorcycle was traveling southbound on CTH E, approaching a curve. The motorcycle left its lane of travel, entered oncoming traffic, continued southbound in the northbound lane, and lost control. The front of the Suburban then struck the motorcycle, and ran over the motorcycle. The 30-year-old male driver of the motorcycle was not wearing a helmet and was dead on the scene of the accident.
- Date of Accident: 07-13-10
Location: I-43 northbound, .56 mile north of CTH O/Moorland Road
A 2008 Chevrolet pick-up truck was northbound on I-43, lost power due to possibly running out of gas, and began to slow. The 2008 Harley Davidson motorcycle struck the back end of the pick-up truck. This collision was the cause of the subsequent death of the 57-year-old male driver, who was operating his motorcycle while he was impaired. Thus, the cause of the accident can be determined to be impairment associated with alcohol consumption.
- Date of Accident: 07-18-10
Location: E/B I-94, .50 mile west of CTH BB/Golden Lake Road
This traffic accident resulted in a fatal injury several days after the accident. Traffic on eastbound I-94 started to slow down. A 2000 GMC Sierra pick-up truck struck the rear-end of a 2005 Dodge Grand Caravan. On 07-21-10, a 79-year-old female passenger in the GMC pick-up truck passed away from internal injuries sustained during the accident.

HIGH CRASH LOCATIONS / FATALS CONTINUED

● Date of Accident: 08-19-10

Location: STH 164/Big Bend Drive north of Edgewood Avenue

This traffic accident involves a car vs. pedestrian. A 2000 Pontiac Montana van was traveling southbound on STH 164 at approximately 35 miles per hour. At approximately 2:37 a.m., the operator observed a pedestrian in the roadway, however, did not have time to brake or swerve and struck the pedestrian. The pedestrian struck the windshield of the van. The 37-year-old male pedestrian was taken to Waukesha Memorial Hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING SCHEDULED

The next meeting of the Waukesha County Traffic Safety Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, November 3, 2010, at 2:00 p.m., at the City of Waukesha Police Department.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mitzi Dobersek, of the Wisconsin DOT Highway Engineering Representative, made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Sergeant Mark Tushaus, of the City of Brookfield Police Department. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Gregesich
Waukesha County Sheriff's Department

(MINUTES APPROVED ON 11-03-10)